



Dogs Speak Secret Lake Dog Training, LLC

November 2008



Thanksgiving is almost here. Time to visit with family and friends. Make the Holidays are enjoyable for all.



Keep Everyone Safe on Thanksgiving

Please prepare your dog for the holidays. Holidays can be stressful for dogs due to noise, confusion and changes in routine. *Any dog can become upset enough to bite when under stress.*

Children are the most often bitten by dogs with the family dog most often being the biter. Avoid trouble by following a few tips.

- ◆ Do not allow your dog to greet guests at the door for the safety of the dog and guests.
- ◆ Crate your dog in a quiet area out of the way especially during arrivals and departures and dinner preparation, serving, and eating. Give him a bone or favorite chew toy.
- ◆ Do not allow children to hug the dog. Dogs don't like hugs and kisses and may snap or bite.
- ◆ Assign an adult to be in

charge of the dog, to watch for signs of stress and protect the dog from unwanted attention from children and adults.

- ◆ If the dog shows any of the signs below, then he is worried and wants to be left alone. Move him to a safe, secure, quiet place. Signs of stress are when the dog:
 - Yawns or licks his chops.
 - Shows the white part of his eye in a half moon shape.
 - Turns his head away, walks away or tries to hide under furniture.
 - Freezes and becomes very still, with his mouth closed. He may be staring intensely at the person who is bothering him and may growl. This dog is a few seconds away from a bite.

- Growls or raises the fur along his back.

If you perceive a problem between your dog and your guest(s), this is not the time to try to work on it. Instead, remove your dog from the situation. After the holiday, call a trainer for help with your dog

Mattie's Safety Tips

Cooked turkey bones can splinter and cause death by choking your dog or puncturing internal organs.

Please be careful with holiday foods, leftovers, and trash. If your dog is a trash stealer, take preventative measures and keep the trash inaccessible to your dog.

Don't give your dog turkey, gravy and pie. Your dog may get ill from such rich fatty foods. Instead give him a dog biscuit.



Fun with Obstacles Classes

held on Saturdays throughout Fall and Winter!

Emphasis in this class is on playing with your dog to build teamwork and attention, learning the obstacles, and having fun. This course is not geared toward agility competition. The goal of the course is to teach you and your dog one more way to work as a team and have a blast!

Not sure about the class? Stop in on a Saturday to see a class in action! Check the schedule on the website.

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